

REMARKS

In response to the Patent Office Action of August 4, 2005, the Applicant respectfully requests re-examination and reconsideration. To further the prosecution of this application, amendments have been made herein and further arguments are submitted that will clearly show that the now pending claims are all in condition for allowance. It is noted that the Examiner has already indicated allowable subject matter in claim 15.

In paragraph three of the Patent Office Letter, the Examiner has objected to claim 16. Claim 16 has now been amended and thus this claim objection should now be overcome.

In the Patent Office Letter the Examiner has rejected claims 10-14 and 16-17 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by the Mitchell U.S. Patent 3,721,458. It is noted that in making this rejection the Examiner has pointed out that because of the language "adapted for" the "accommodating slot" has not been positively recited and thus not considered as distinguishing language. Accordingly, in claim 10 an amendment has been made to now indicate that the support posts are each engageable with an accommodating slot of the weldment. It is believed that with this amendment to claim 10, claim 10 and its related dependent claims should now be found in condition for allowance. The Mitchell patent does not show support posts extending from the resilient pad at spaced intervals and each engageable with an accommodating slot of the weldment.

It is also noted that the Applicant has added additional dependent claims, namely claims 30-33 all depending from claim 10 and that recite further features clearly not found in this reference.

In paragraphs six-nine of the Patent Office Letter, the Examiner has set forth a rejection of claims 18-29. The majority of these claims have been rejected on the basis of Frank U.S. Patent No. 4,421,290. In the Frank patent their bolts 15 are not permanently attached with the pad but instead must be disengaged from the pad for mounting. On the other hand, in accordance with the present invention, and with reference to claim 18, our mounting lugs are permanently affixed with our pad member. This language has now been added into claim 18 and is clearly distinguishing language. Accordingly, claim 18 and its dependent claims should now be found in condition for allowance. Also note that claim 19 has been amended to indicate that the support members are fixed in the

passages in both the mounted and dismounted position of the resilient pad. That is not the case with the Frank structure.

The above arguments also apply to claim 21. Claim 21 has now been amended to indicate that the pad further has respective mounted and dismounted positions relative to the weldment. Lastly, claim 21 adds the limitation that the support rods are fixed with the resilient pad in both the mounted and dismounted position of the resilient pad. Again, this is not the case with regard to the Frank patent.

Regarding the rejection to claims 24-26, it is believed that this rejection is now moot in view of the amendments made to claim 21.

The Applicant has also now added to the application three dependent claims, namely claims 34-36. These claims all depend from claim 18 and recite further distinguishing features not taught in the prior art relied upon by the Examiner.

In the response the Applicant has also added new claims 37-39. These claims are believed to be patentably distinguishing for the same reasons previously presented. For example, the resilient pad is defined as having respective mounted and dismounted positions relative to the weldment and the support posts are defined as being maintained fixed with the resilient pad in both the mounted and dismounted positions of the resilient pad.


CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, the Applicants respectfully submit that all of the claims pending in the above-identified application are in condition for allowance, and a notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

If the present application is found by the Examiner not to be in condition for allowance, then the Applicants hereby request a telephone or personal interview to facilitate the resolution of any remaining matters. Applicants' attorney may be contacted by telephone at the number indicated below to schedule such an interview.

Respectfully submitted,
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Dated: Dec. 5 2005

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